

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 059191

21

ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/P:FJSEIDNER/VRM

APPROVED BY EUR:AAHARTMAN

EUR/WE - R. BARBOUR

PA/FOI - B. ENNIS

EUR - R.D. VINE (SUBSTANCE)

S/S-CABORG

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R 110129Z MAR 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ROME

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 059191

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, IT

SUBJECT: UNAUTHORIZED RELEASE OF INFORMATION RELATING
TO ITALY

REF: ROME 3248

1. WE APPRECIATE INFORMATION PROVIDED IN REFTEL WHICH
PROMPTED US TO REVIEW EXISTING PROCEDURES INVOLVING
CONTROL AND RELEASE OF CLASSIFIED COMMUNICATIONS UNDER FOI.
OF THREE CASE STUDIES REFERRED TO IN REFTEL, ONLY FIRST,
I.E., THAT CONCERNING THREE EMBASSY TELEGRAMS QUOTED IN
PANORAMA WEEKLY, INVOLVES MATERIAL DECLASSIFIED UNDER FOI.
OTHERS INVOLVING MATERIAL PUBLISHED IN LA STAMPA AND IL
MESSAGGERO, APPARENTLY DERIVED FROM LEAKED PIKE COMMITTEE
DOCUMENTS AND ARE UNRELATED TO FOI PROCEDURES. DEPARTMENT
HAS NO INFORMATION ON HOW LATTER MATERIAL FELL INTO
UNAUTHORIZED HANDS.

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PAGE 02 STATE 059191

2. TELEGRAMS QUOTED IN PANORAMA WEEKLY HAD INITIALLY BEEN

DENIED TO EDWARD BECKER (LEFTIST RESEARCHER, FORMERLY OF FEDERAL CITY COLLEGE HERE) UNDER AN FOI REQUEST, IN WHICH A TOTAL OF 51 OF 69 DOCUMENTS WERE DENIED. AFTER BECKER APPEALED THIS DETERMINATION, PARTS OF TEN DOCUMENTS OUT OF THE 51 WERE RELEASED; 41 CONTINUED TO BE DENIED IN

TOTO. TELEGRAMS QUOTED IN PANORAMA WEEKLY WERE AMONG TEN RELEASED IN PART.

3. IN ACCORDANCE WITH PROCEDURES ESTABLISHED SINCE EARLY 1975, IN ALL CASES INVOLVING RELEASE OF MATERIAL BY THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION STAFF IN PA (PA/FOI), EXCISING OF DELETED MATERIAL HAS BEEN DONE BY EUR, WHICH THEN GIVES PA/FOI TWO SETS OF DOCUMENTS, ONE WITH EXCISIONS, THE OTHER WITH BRACKETS INDICATING WHERE THE EXCISIONS OCCUR. ALTHOUGH PRACTICE APPARENTLY FOLLOWED AS USUAL IN THIS CASE, PA/FOI HAS NOT BEEN ABLE TO FIND EXCISED SET IN ITS FILES, WHICH COULD BE EXPECTED IF WRONG SET HAD BEEN GIVEN TO BECKER. THE UNEXCISED VERSIONS OF TEN DOCUMENTS WERE APPARENTLY PLACED IN RELEASE ENVELOPE IN ERROR, TOGETHER WITH 18 THAT HAD BEEN PREVIOUSLY RELEASED IN FULL.

4. IN ANY EVENT, PA/FOI IS NOW REVIEWING ITS PROCEDURES IN ORDER TO PREVENT FUTURE ERRORS. FROM NOW ON, OFFICERS IN PA/FOI HANDLING RELEASE OF MATERIAL WILL BE REQUIRED TO INITIAL AND DATE THE ENVELOPE IN WHICH THEY PLACE THE MATERIAL FOR RELEASE, AND WILL BE HELD PERSONALLY RESPONSIBLE FOR ENSURING THAT ANY DOCUMENTS WHICH THEY HAVE PLACED IN FILES HAVE BEEN PROPERLY AND COMPLETELY EXCISED BY REVIEWING BUREAU. PA/FOI IS ALSO CIRCULARIZING ALL BUREAUS TO REMIND THEM OF THEIR RESPONSIBILITY TO PROVIDE COMPLETELY EXCISED COPIES OF ANY DOCUMENTS WHICH ARE BEING PARTIALLY DENIED.

5. PA/FOI SENDS COPY OF AUTHORIZATION FOR DECLASSIFICATION AND RELEASE TO DEPARTMENT'S CENTRAL FILES (FADRC), WHICH NOTES ON PERMANENT FILE COPY OF EACH DOCUMENT THAT IT IS DECLASSIFIED. FADRC DOES NOT NOTIFY ORIGINATING POST OR OFFICE, OR ANYONE ELSE. IN ORDER TO CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 03 STATE 059191

KEEP POSTS OF ORIGIN INFORMED OF RELATIVELY CURRENT MATERIAL DECLASSIFIED UNDER FOI, EUR WILL HENCEFORTH NOTIFY THEM OF SUCH ACTION ON ALL DOCUMENTS LESS THAN FIVE YEARS OLD. COPIES OF DOCUMENTS MORE THAN TWO YEARS OLD WILL BE TRANSMITTED TO POSTS ALONG WITH NOTIFICATION. NOTIFICATION OF DOCUMENTS OVER FIVE YEARS OLD WILL BE SENT ONLY WHEN THE RESPONSIBLE EUR OFFICE MAKES A SPECIFIC REQUEST. PA/FOI IS NOW ALSO CONSIDERING

RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL ON CLASSIFICATION POLICY THAT
POSTS OF ORIGIN BE INFORMED OF DECLASSIFICATION OF
DOCUMENTS PERHAPS THREE YEARS OLD AS A DEPARTMENT-WIDE
PRACTICE. INGERSOLL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, DEPARTMENTAL TELEGRAMS, NEWS LEAKS, CLASSIFIED INFORMATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 11 MAR 1976
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: vogelfj
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STATE059191
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: FJSEIDNER/VRM
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760092-0354
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760370/aaaacjvz.tel
Line Count: 119
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 76 ROME 3248
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: vogelfj
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 11 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <11 MAY 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <27 AUG 2004 by vogelfj>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: UNAUTHORIZED RELEASE OF INFORMATION RELATING TO ITALY
TAGS: PINT, IT
To: ROME
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006